



I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as First Class Mail, in an envelope addressed to: MS AF, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.  
Dated: December 20, 2007 Signature: *Mayank M. Dixit*  
(Mayankkumar M. Dixit)

**EXPEDITED PROCEDURE**  
Group Art Unit: 3733  
Docket No.: SPINE 3.0-438 CONT CONT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of: :  
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Ralph et al. :   
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Application No.: 10/715,968 : Group Art Unit: 3733  
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Filed: November 18, 2003 : Examiner: P. Philogene  
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For: FEMORAL RING LOADER :

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.116

MS AF  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed August 21, 2007, Applicants submit the following amendments and remarks.

APPROVED: /P.P./